

REMARKS

The applicants have carefully considered the Office action dated June 25, 2004. In view of the following, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

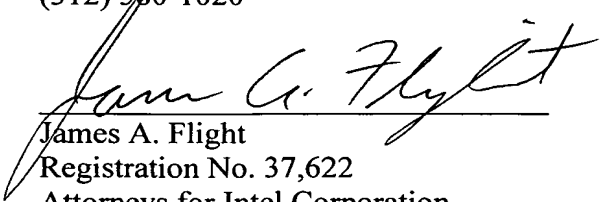
The Office action contains a restriction requirement alleging that the claims define two patentably distinct inventions. In particular, the Office action requires the applicants to restrict the application to either claims 1-25 or claims 26-44 for further prosecution in this application. In response to the restriction requirement, claims 26-44 have been cancelled without prejudice to their further prosecution in a divisional application.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number identified below.

Respectfully submitted,

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